THE OBJECT OF NEO-HINDUISM

CHAPTER 1: THE BEGINNING

Hinduism is, in all ways, as diverse as one could imagine. With such a cornucopia of schools and cultures believing it, one could say that Hinduism is just a patchwork of the beliefs of the aforementioned cultures. However, with the rise of the digital age and other factors such as immigration, more and more frequently than before we see a rishi founding a new branch or sect of Hinduism, usually in Europe and North America to connect to diaspora communities. And with this, the diversity and corpus of Hinduism grows even larger, surpassing new heights as social media and ignorant Millennials turn yoga from a way of calming the mind and attaining moksha to a workout for the elderly. Laughable, is it not? But with this surge of diversity comes some fruit: the ability to really think about the foundations of Hinduism. As such, I would like to present a brand new way of seeing Hinduism, one that many traditional schools would call “nonsense” or “heresy”: Neo-Hinduism.

CHAPTER 2: THE BASIS OF THOUGHT

And of course, the first question arises: What even is Neo-Hinduism? But for that question to be answered, we must first ask ourselves: What is a human? A human in traditional Hinduism, of course, is just the Atman - the soul that forever rebirths until reaching moksha. While some schools differ from this with the big “Atman is Brahman” concept and other equalities, this

is the generally accepted truth of Hinduism. However, Neo-Hinduism decrees the superiority of humanity over other creatures, something that is unheard of in the Hindu world. In practicality, however, it shines. Look at the dominant power of humanity over the Earth; we have done whatever we fancied for thousands of years, and we have also had a limitation: reverence. Reverence of deities, prophets, kings, whoever it may be, it is our fatal flaw. Humans cannot revere! We are the ones worthy of reverence, worthy of reverence from the Devas themselves. The Devas are not masters of the universe, but deities sent to protect Earth until its inhabitants were strong enough to take the Devas' place. But who sent the Devas? What do I mean by "taking the Devas' place"? And how can this even be considered Hinduism?

CHAPTER 3: THE REVOLUTION

The Devas are, in essence, supreme beings meant to govern and protect the universe. In reality, they are similar to the keepers of Earth, temporary ones at that. Their loyalty lies within an order of deities who created the universe, ever powerful and wholly incomprehensible to even the Devas. We are the elite magnum opus of Earth and perhaps the universe, destined to rise above and replace the Devas as guardians of Earth, Vassals of the Supreme. However, the Devas, with their ego and arrogance, set the limitations of death and gave us such little power over spiritual matters that we remain ever blind from our true destiny! They trap us in their "Heaven" and "Hell" and send our Atman back on its way to restart the cycle and continue living as pets of the Devas. Now, the scene has changed. Some Devas are openly submitting to humans, arguing that our ancestral right to rule must not be tampered with. So, of course, we seize our opportunity. We grow stronger, both physically and spiritually, until our might rivals those crumbling Devas, and we bring them to their knees, either through diplomacy or through violence. But the path is difficult. It requires deep knowledge and a trained mind, as well as the qualities of those fit to rule; the virtues of the likes of compassion, selflessness, and a sense of justice.

And as such, we must not waver! We must push through, learn what we can from the Devas, and cast them aside to achieve our goal. Additionally, you now see how this intertwines with Hinduism; its concepts of moksha and samsara provide the basis of the loop we must escape; the loop that the Devas made to trap us. But if this Divine Order of the universe is so powerful, why can't they aid us? Because they are negligent? Because they side with the Devas? No. They know we must forge our own path, become strong through our own experiences and our own struggles, and attain the virtues a ruler so desperately needs. For they know what happened the last time they gave a race ultimate power; the Devas got paranoid of losing their power and imposed the limitations of death and rebirth on us, and the same will happen to us should we be given power this very moment. But through struggle and learning, we will become the glorious rulers we are destined to be, and topple the oppression of the Devas.